Reservation of jobs in Private Sector

†675. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH:
SHRI C. PERUMAL:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scheme is under Government's consideration for providing reservation in jobs in the private sector; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) and (b) The National Common Minimum Programme of the Government, *inter-alia*, states that the Government is very sensitive to the issue of affirmative action, including reservations in private sector. For the said purpose, a national dialogue is proposed with all political parties, industry and other organizations to see how best the private sector can fulfill the aspirations of Scheduled Castes and scheduled Tribes youth.

Drug abuse

†676. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to the National Survey on the extent, pattern and trends of drug abuse in India, there are 236 million people who have some or the other kind of addiction;

(b) whether according to the survey, the preferred substances of abuse are tobacco, alcohol, cannbis, opiates and sedatives; and

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take to rein in this problem and to rehabilitate the drug addicts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) No, Sir. The Report on "National Survey on the Extent, Pattern And

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Trends Of Drug Abuse in India", has projected 236 million as "current users" (used within last one month, including once in the month) of some or other kind of substances. This includes 169 million current users of tobacco. Further, the Report states that according to WHO Guidelines, approximately, on an average, 20-21% of the "current users" would be "dependent users" implying addicted to substance. Thus, excluding tobacco, the number of persons dependent (addicted) on alcohol and other drugs has been estimated around 15 million only.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Government is seized with the problem of increasing incidence of substance abuse in the society. Recognizing drug abuse as a psycho-socio-medical problem, requiring community based interventions, the Government is implementing the "Scheme for Prevention of Alcoholism and Substance (Drugs) Abuse", wherein registered Non-Government Organizations are being provided financial support for awareness programmes, counseling, treatment and rehabilitation services in varied settings such as community, workplaces, educational institutions, prisons, etc. with an objective of reducing the incidence and consumption of illicit drugs. Presently, under the Scheme 361 NGOs are being funded for running 62 Counselling & Awareness Centres and 379 Treatment-cum-Rehabilitation Centres all over the country, besides Deaddiction Camps and Workplace Prevention programmes. Against an expenditure of Rs. 22.65 crores during 2003-04, an allocation of Rs. 29.15 crores has been made under the Scheme for the financial year 2004-05.

Survey of Wakf properties

677. SHRI S.P.M. SAYED KHAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the survey of Wakf properties has been completed;

(b) if so, the value the Wakf properties, State-wise;